

Last year, Jett and his mom moved to a new town after his father went to jail. But fresh starts aren't all they're cracked up to be. When he befriended a boy from an abusive home, Jett was pulled into a cycle of bad decisions that resulted in betraying a friend—something he hasn't forgiven himself for. But maybe a summer with his unconventional grandmother can help Jett find redemption.

YP FIC SMITH



Linc and Holly were once close. But smart, popular Holly—adopted and from Ghana— outshined her sister with academic success. Linc wants to pursue photography, wants a place of belonging, and wants her family to accept her for who she is, despite her mother's constant disapproval. She hopes to prove her mother proud by working on a project focused on Seneca Village, where Central Park now resides. But when a long-buried secret is revealed, Linc must decide if her mother's love is worth obtaining.

YP FIC JENSEN



After her mother's death, twelve-year-old Artemisia had a choice: a life as a nun, or a life grinding pigment for paint. At seventeen, Artemisia did more than grind pigment. She was a talented painter, even if no one knew her name. But the Rome of 1610 was one where men took what they wanted from women. In the aftermath of her assault, Artemisia is faced with a choice: a life of silence or a life of truth, no matter the cost.

YP FIC MCCULLOU



Vanilla and Hunter have had many firsts together: coming out, navigating middle school, and being boyfriends. They know they love each other. As high school goes on and their relationship deepens, cracks begin to show. Hunter wants to take things further, but Vanilla isn't sure. Hunter prefers hanging out with loud, obnoxious friends. Vanilla doesn't. If they become different people, can they be the same couple? After all, falling in love is hard. Staying in love is harder.

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In My Own Words:

Books in Verse for

Teens (Part 1)

KEY: YP FIC - Call number

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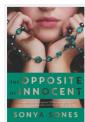
A harsh, controlling father. A passive mother. A house that feels like anything but a home. Natasha gathers the strength to leave, and comes upon a little house in the wood: A house that walks about on chicken feet and is inhabited by a fairy tale witch. In finding Baba Yaga, Natasha finds her voice, her power, and herself.

YP FIC YOLEN



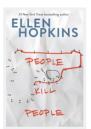
Walt is sure junior year is his and Noah's year. He's got a plan to help them woo the girls they like and become great athletes. But when it feels like nothing will change, Noah stumbles upon a stash of old love letters, each containing what he wishes he could say to Sam. So he uses the letters as a guide to make artwork that speaks his heart. But when his private work goes public, Noah must make a choice: stay in the dugout and lose Sam forever, or take a swing and speak out.

YP FIC ALEXANDE



Lily was only twelve when Luke left, but he's finally back. At fourteen, she feels different. And having Luke back is better than Lily could've ever dreamed. His lingering looks set Lily on fire, but she's sure she's imagining them. Her friends, however, think anyone Luke's age who wants to be with a fourteen-year-old is really messed up. Maybe even dangerous. But Luke would never do anything to hurt her. Would he?

YP FIC SORES



A teen buys a gun from the classifieds for protection. But who was it? Rand or Cami, married teenagers with a young son? Silas or Ashlyn, members of a white supremacist youth group? Daniel, who fears retaliation because of his race and clings to his girlfriend Grace? Or was it Noelle, who lost everything after a horrible accident and is sinking into depression? No matter what, someone will fire that qun. And someone will die. But who?

YP FIC HOPKINS



Xiomara Batista feels unheard in her Harlem neighborhood. Since her body matured, she's learned to let her fierceness do the talking. But she also has plenty to say, and pours her frustrations onto the pages of her leather notebook. More so when she gains feelings for a boy named Aman. With her mother determined to have her obey church law, Xiomara knows it's best to keep quiet. But her school's slam poetry club grabs her attention in more ways than one.

YP FIC ACEVEDO; (E.B.)



Joe hasn't seen his brother in ten years. Ed didn't walk out on the family, not exactly. It's something more brutal. Ed's locked up—on death row. As the clock counts down to his set execution date, Joe is determined to spend those last weeks with his brother, no matter what other people think...and no matter whether Ed committed the crime. But did he? And does it matter, in the end?

YP FIC CROSSAN